

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
30/80

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1077



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

East Lexington

Address 6 Locust Avenue

Historic Name Nelson Jenney Rental Property

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction c.1893

Source Lexington Valuation Lists

Style/Form Queen Anne

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim wood clapboard, wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates) ---

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acres 16,200 SF

Setting late 19th century residential neighborhood
off Mass. Ave.

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) May 2000

BUILDING FORM (6 Locust Avenue)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of the building in terms of other buildings within the community.

Shaded by a large maple tree, 6 Locust Avenue is a 2 1/2-story dwelling displaying a first floor sheathed in wood clapboards with staggered butt shingles above. The house is set on a fieldstone foundation. The gablefront measures three bays wide with 1/1 sash and a smaller pair of 1/1 windows in the attic. The facade is fronted by a single-story porch supported by bulbous turned porch posts which are spanned by stick balusters. The sidehall entrance is marked by an enclosed vestibule with a multi-glass outer door framed by sidelights. The inner door is of a glass-and-panel configuration. The pediment marking the entrance is sheathed in vertical boards with a curved half-timber detail on the pediment and ends of the porch. The east elevation displays a large gable wall dormer and is fronted by a smaller gable projection with the same sheathing and foundation. The projecting gable is two bays wide on the upper level while the lower level displays a central window flanked by smaller windows on the cutaway corners. There is an additional cross gable on the west elevation and a single-story wing at the rear. A small rear porch has been added on the east side and is shaded by an arbor.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This house appears to have been constructed for Nelson Jenney as a rental property in the 1890s. In 1893 the P. Pierce heirs sold the land to Jenney and by 1894 he was assessed for a house on Locust Street. The *Lexington Minute-man* of June 29, 1907 reported that Mrs. Francis Buttrick had just purchased a house and land on Locust Ave. from Nelson Jenney and that the house was then occupied by the Clark family. Francis and Sarah Buttrick came to Lexington in October 1905. Directories indicate that the Buttrick family was living at 215 Mass. Ave. in 1906 but were at 4 Locust Avenue by the time of the 1908 directory. He was employed as a salesman and the family continued to live here into the 1950s when the property was conveyed to Marie and Verner Dempsey.

The house was known as 4 Locust Avenue until the mid 1930s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lexington Assessors Records.
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-man, May 12, 1893; 6/29/1907.
Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.